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**March 31, 2006**

**INDIANA CORN DOWN, WHILE SOYBEAN PLANTING INTENTIONS UP**

Indiana farmers intend to plant 5.50 million acres of corn for all purposes and 5.90 million acres of soybeans in 2006 based on USDA-NASS, Indiana Field Office's March 1 survey. If these intentions are realized, corn planted acreage would be down 7 percent, while soybeans planted acreage would be up 9 percent from the 2005 level.

The 2006 winter wheat acreage seeded last fall is estimated at 460,000 acres, 28 percent higher than the 360,000 acres seeded a year earlier. Intended acres seeded to oats, at 25,000 acres, is up 25 percent from 2005. Intended all hay acreage for harvest, at 650,000 acres, is unchanged from 2005. Tobacco estimates for Indiana were discontinued in 2005.

Nationally, corn growers intend to plant 78.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2006, down 5 percent from 2005 and 4 percent below 2004. If realized, this will be the lowest corn acreage since 2001 when 75.7 million acres were planted for all purposes. Expected acreage is down from last year in most States as producers intend to switch to other less input intensive crops due to high fertilizer and fuel costs. Dry conditions also contributed to lower corn planting intentions in the southern Great Plains.

U. S. soybean producers intend to plant 76.9 million acres in 2006, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area on record. Acreage increases are expected in all growing areas, except in the central and southern Atlantic Coast States and the southern Great Plains. The largest acreage increase is in North Dakota, where record high soybean yields last year and high input costs have some farmers shifting acreage from other crops to soybeans. Large increases in soybean acreage are also expected across the Corn Belt, including 600,000 more acres in Illinois and 500,000 more acres in Indiana.

Nationally, all wheat planted area is expected to total 57.1 million acres, down slightly from 2005. If realized, this will be the lowest all wheat acreage since 1972. Winter wheat planted area for the 2006 crop is 41.4 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Of the total, about 29.8 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.42 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 4.22 million acres are White Winter. The 2006 other spring wheat planted acreage is expected to total 13.9 million, down 1 percent from 2005. Of the total, about 13.2 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Intended Durum wheat planted area is 1.83 million acres, down 34 percent from the previous year. If realized, this will be the lowest Durum wheat acreage since 1961.

**PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS - 2006 1/**

Crop	Acres for Planting			
	2004	2005	2006	06/05
	Thousand Acres			%
INDIANA:				
Corn, All Purposes	5,700	5,900	5,500	93
Soybeans	5,550	5,400	5,900	109
Winter Wheat <u>2/</u>	450	360	460	128
Oats	25	20	25	125
All Hay <u>3/</u>	660	650	650	100
UNITED STATES:				
Corn, All Purposes	80,929	81,759	78,019	95
Soybeans	75,208	72,142	76,895	107
Winter Wheat <u>2/</u>	43,350	40,433	41,404	102
Spring Wheat (Including Durum)	16,324	16,796	15,724	94
Oats	4,085	4,246	4,324	102
Sorghum, All Purposes	7,486	6,454	6,483	100
All Hay <u>3/</u>	61,966	61,649	61,478	100
Tobacco <u>3/</u>	408.1	298.0	306.6	103

1/ As of March 1. 2/ Seeded the previous year. 3/ Harvested acres.

SOURCE: USDA-NASS, Indiana Field Office